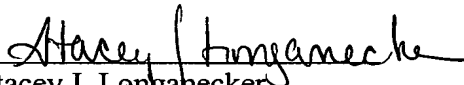


REMARKS

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 10-17 and 27-24, the allowance of claims 5, 7, 9 and 20-24 if rewritten in independent form, and the allowance of claims 25 and 26 if claim 25 is amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. By the present Amendment, claims 1-9, 18-20 and 39-41 have been canceled. Claim 25 has been amended to correct a typographical error and therefore to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been rewritten and combined as new claim 42. Claims 1 and 7 have been rewritten and combined as new claim 43. Claims 8 and 9 have been rewritten and combined as new claim 44. Claims 18 and 20 have been rewritten and combined as new claim 45. Finally, claims 21 has been amended to change its dependency to another base claim.

In view of the above, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and notice to this effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,


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